

Communication Interoperability Working Group

January 17, 2006
Minutes

WELCOME, PUBLIC COMMENT AND REVIEW OF MINUTES:

The meeting was called to order at 1310 hours by the Chair, Mike Varney. The following individuals were in attendance: Chuck Beck (DOT), George Carbonell (ConnDOT), Robert DiBella (DEMHS), John Gustafson (CMED-NH), Doug Harder (ICTAP), Jeff Otto (QVEC), Roy Piper (DEMHS), George Pohorilak (OSET), Gordon Shand (DPH), Mike Stemmler (DPS), Matt Valleau (CAP/CSP), Mike Varney (DOIT/CFCA), Keith Victor (CREPC) and Lee Toffey (secretary).

There were no public comments.

Minutes of the 12-20-05 meeting reviewed; motion to accept by John Gustafson, second by Roy Piper, unanimous/moved and will be posted on the DEMHS website.

SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- A. Technical Committee: Presented by George Carbonell. 1) Working on how to complete control station inventory i.e. what equipment is present, serial number, verifying that unit works, etc. Should be done by independent group of people. 2) STOC's RFI closing today. 3) Question of CRCOG having STOC's frequencies in control station and vehicles. George Shand advised that this did not interfere with licensing issues. Discussion ensued – question asked of who holds license and is there an MOU? Per Bob DiBella it is DEMHS and no MOU's are in place. Gordon Shand asked about option of putting in place a statewide mobile only authorization. Roy Piper will follow up as part of the statewide plan with Deputy Commissioner Sandford and Director Kerry Flaherty. Mike Stemmler advised there is still the licensing issue with the prime movers and decon trailer mobile radios and repeater units that needs to be resolved.
- B. Governance Committee: Mike Varney stated that the document he hoped to have for this meeting was not ready. A draft will be sent to committee members by this Tuesday (January 24) for discussion and review at the next meeting. Would like a group consensus on the document before it is forwarded to DEMHS to sanction.
- C. Training & Exercise Workgroup: Mike Varney stated that the Fire Academy has agreed to deliver train the trainer classes using their instructors. He will set up a subcommittee meeting to discuss training plans and needs before the next interoperability meeting. The rough draft needs to be made into a workable program.

REPORT OF INTEROPERABILITY USAGE AND INCIDENTS: none reported. Bob DiBella commented that when the DEMHS radio was out, NCC had a technician there to fix it within 50 minutes.

OLD BUSINESS:

- A. Portable Radio Inventory & Training Programs: See Training and Exercise Workgroup above.
- B. ITAC/ICALL Test & Training Issues: battery distribution and inventory discussed.

- C. UASI: removed as a UASI Region for fiscal year 2006 funding.
- D. Homeland Security Grant Program: FY2004 and FY2005 have tentative budget set asides for current projects.
- E. Tactical Interoperable Communication Plan: Exercise planning meeting tomorrow (Jan. 18). Two day workshop will be on Jan. 31 and Feb. 1st. Invitations will be sent as soon as a location is determined. DOT, DPH and DPS to be invited.
- F. STOCs equipment: RFI closes today. Re-advertised to solicit more vendor input.
- G. RFP for master catalog: Final review on Thursday, will be advertised on Monday – multiple award, multiple vendors.
- H. Request from CT-IMT4: no action as of yet.
- I. Prime Mover radios and Licensing: Discussed under Technical Committee.
- J. DEMHS VHS radios: see above.
- K. ICALL/ITAC proposal from Chief Jakubson: unable to attend meeting.
- L. Other: Hartford Hospital Lifestar – group had approved a portable for each helicopter and a base station for command last year. Attempted to touch base with the hospital on multiple occasions but never made contact. Mike Varney will contact the hospital and have them contact Mike Stemmler.

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Press Coverage for STOC's: New London Day newspaper article discussed.
- B. Other: Mike Varney spoke of the need to formally put together the strategic plan (with emphasis on the next 2 years) and the need to put in for a FY2006 grant set aside. The DEMHS Grant Unit is holding a workshop specific to Communication Interoperability on Tuesday, January 24 from 9-2 pm at the Chief State's Attorney's Office in Rocky Hill. If possible, the members of the Interop Committee should attend. Lee to email grant template to all members.

CORRESPONDENCE/GRANT REVIEWS:

- A. CEDAP – one request received from Greenwich for a RIOS box. There were no problems with it.
- B. Grant Reviews – 1) Mashantucket Pequot review still pending due to lack of information, no action taken. 2) Easton review pending due to problems with the application. Roy will sit with them to give them guidance and help with the project. 3) Glastonbury submitted a project which was accepted but they have made CRCOG their administrating agency, so no grant funds are available for the project at this time.

NEXT MEETING:

Next meeting will be **February 21, 2006, at 1300 hours**, DOT Central Lab, Rocky Hill.

Meetings open to the public.

Minutes will be posted to DEMHS website.

Motion to adjourn by John Gustafson, second by Roy Piper.

Meeting adjourned at 1449 hours.